



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Workers' Compensation Programs

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Claim for Reimbursement – Assisted Reemployment (CA-2231)

AGENCY: Office of Workers' Compensations.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is soliciting comments concerning a proposed revision for the authority to conduct the information collection request (ICR) titled, “Claim for Reimbursement – Assisted Reemployment (CA-2231). This comment request is part of continuing Departmental efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

DATES: Consideration will be given to all written comments received by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation, including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained free by contacting Anjanette Suggs by telephone at 202-354-9660 or by email at suggs.anjanette@dol.gov.

Submit written comments about, or requests for a copy of, this ICR by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Room S3323, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210; by email: suggs.anjanette@dol.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Anjanette Suggs by telephone at 202-354-9660 or by email at suggs.anjanette@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOL, as part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information before submitting them to the OMB for final approval. This program helps to ensure requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements can be properly assessed.

Background: The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA). Section 8104 (a) of the FECA provides vocational rehabilitation services to eligible injured workers to facilitate their return to work. Annual appropriations language under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022 (currently in Public Law 117-103) provides OWCP with legal authority to use amounts from the Fund to reimburse private sector employers for a portion of the salary of reemployed FECA claimants hired through OWCP's assisted reemployment program. Additionally, 5 U.S.C. 8111 provides that an individual undergoing vocational rehabilitation under section 8104 may be paid additional compensation necessary for his maintenance, which is initiated by an employer for a claimant using Form CA-2231. Information collected on Form CA-2231 provides OWCP with the necessary remittance information for the employer, documents the hours of work, certifies the payment of wages to the claimant for which reimbursement is sought, and summarizes the nature and costs of the wage reimbursement program for a prompt decision by OWCP. This information collection is currently approved for use through December 31, 2022.

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not

required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB under the PRA approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(b) and 1320.6.

Interested parties are encouraged to provide comments to the contact shown in the ADDRESSES section. Written comments will receive consideration, and be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the final ICR. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Number 1240-0018. Submitted comments will also be a matter of public record for this ICR and posted on the internet, without redaction. The DOL encourages commenters not to include personally identifiable information, confidential business data, or other sensitive statements/information in any comments.

The DOL is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
 - Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
 - Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses.

Agency: DOL-Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

Type of Review: Extension

Title of Collection: Claim for Reimbursement – Assisted Reemployment

Form: CA-2231

OMB Number: 1240-0018

Affected Public: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 14

Frequency: Quarterly

Total Estimated Annual Responses: 56

Estimated Average Time per Response: 30 minutes

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 28

Total Estimated Annual Other Cost Burden: 0

AUTHORITY: 44 U.S.C. 3506(c) (2) (A).

Anjanette Suggs,

Agency Clearance Officer.

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